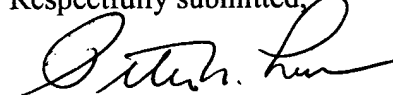


## Remarks

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1-15 have been amended and claim 16 has been added to remove multiple dependency and address typographical errors. The specification has been amended to add section headings. The abstract has been amended in accordance with U.S. practice.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance. An early action indication of such is earnestly solicited. However, if there are any issues that remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite a resolution to such issues. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees or credit any overpayment of fees in connection with this communication to Deposit Account 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter N. Lalos

Reg. No. 19,789

STEVENS DAVIS MILLER & MOSHER, LLP

1615 L Street, N.W. Suite 850

Washington DC 20036

(202) 785-0100 Telephone

July 17, 2003